Monthly Happenings: November 2015
Office of English Learning and Migrant Education
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The US Department of Education's Office of English Language Acquisition EL Tool Kit is here!

The K-12 EL Leadership Group met in September to discuss the newly released tool kit. Take a look at the third chapter. We are continuing to highlight all 10 chapters in our Monthly Happenings.

Key Take Aways from the EL Leadership Group:
Chapter 3:
- *LEAs must provide adequate personnel and training to effectively implement the EL program*
- *LEAs must provide professional development and follow-up training to their staff*
- *Administrators must be trained to effectively evaluate EL programs and determine if teachers are using the training in the classroom*
- *The SEA must make sure districts and schools have qualified teachers and administrators for the EL programs*

In the News
Education Week has recently posted several articles featuring ELs. Click Here to read an article about teaching ELs the love of writing. In addition, this story highlights the growing trend of embracing bilingual education.

Want to see your school or district's hard work showcased here? Tweet the news to @EducateIN using #IndianaEL

Check out these great opportunities for professional development!
- **November 11, 2015** *Indiana Latino Education Summit*; Indianapolis, IN. Click **HERE**.
- **November 14, 2015** *INTESOL 2015 Conference; Indianapolis, IN. Click **HERE**.*
- **December 1, 2015** *WVEC Literacy and ELD: The Differences Part I*. Click **HERE**.

WIDA Frequently Asked Questions
- *Are there sample WIDA test questions available?* Yes, WIDA and DRC have provided access to practice test items. You can find these items by clicking here, or visiting this page for test demonstrations.
- *What is WIDA Assessment Management System (AMS)?* WIDA AMS is a management system utilized for ACCESS 2.0. For additional information, please read a short overview or visit WIDA's FAQ.
- *For which tests do my staff or I need certification?* You will need certification for ACCESS 2.0 online, while Kindergarten and Alternative ACCESS certifications remain valid in 2015-2016. Refer to the WIDA Assessment and Accountability guidance on Learning Connection for more information. Please visit wida.us for links to training checklists.
- *Where can I find Alternate ACCESS Scores on Learning Connection?* We are in the process of adding a tab for Alternate ACCESS scores on Learning Connection. Stay tuned for updates and additional information.

Should I contact WIDA or DRC?
Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) is the new test vendor for the WIDA consortium.

- For questions regarding ACCESS 2.0 testing, Kindergarten ACCESS, grades 1-12 ACCESS 2.0 administration (online or paper-based), or WIDA Website User Accounts, contact the **WIDA Client Services Center** at 866-276-7735 or help@wida.us

- For questions regarding WIDA AMS, WIDA AMS technical difficulties, ACCESS 2.0 Data and Reporting, ACCESS 2.0 Online and Paper-based materials ordering, ACCESS 2.0 technical issues, or technology questions related to ACCESS 2.0, contact **Data Recognition Corporation (DRC)** at 855-787-9615 or WIDA@datarecognitioncorp.com.

ACCESS 2.0 Technology Update
Specifics on WIDA ACCESS 2.0 technology requirements can be found here. **Be sure to reach out to district or school Technology Coordinators** prior to the opening of the test window to ensure all necessary technology components are ready for ACCESS 2.0.

Important Data Collection Dates

DOE-LM *(*Language minority) Opened on Nov. 2nd,2015. Click here to view the LM layout for notes and guidance on this data submission.
- Submission opens Nov. 2nd and ends Nov. 20th
- Submission with Signoff begins Nov. 23rd and ends Dec. 11th
- Remember that ALL Language minority students, including FEP students, are included in this report.